

JULY 2001

TreeLink News Bulletin



Chilean Fire Bush
Embothrium coccineum

The Chilean Fire Bush, also known as the Chilean Firecracker Tree, is a broadly columnar evergreen tree. It grows to 30 feet in height, and is a native of Argentina and Chile. The leaves are elliptic to oblong, and about six inches in length. The purple-brown bark is smooth, and flakes with age. The flowers are the most striking characteristic of the tree. They are tubular at first, splitting into four lobes. The lobes curl backward leaving the style protruding. They are bright orange-red, born in clusters in late spring to early summer. The Chilean Fire Bush is found in open places, at all altitudes from the coast to the mountains. This species is one of the most striking representatives of its family.

Picture courtesy of "Trees" by Allen J. Coombes. Published by DK Publishing.



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

DNR URBAN & COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM

The first story in the TreeLink Bulletin this month is an update from the Center For Urban Horticulture at the University of Washington. This is the letter to the extended CUH Community and was copied from their website at <http://depts.washington.edu/urbhort/>. If you would like more information, please call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733. Sarah

To the Extended CUH Community:

The Center for Urban Horticulture was damaged by an arson fire at 3:15 a.m. Monday, May 21st. Merrill Hall offices and research labs, including the Master Gardener Office, were largely destroyed, though the full extent of damage will become clearer during the next few weeks. There is some good news. Though damaged by water, the majority of library books have been saved. Most of the Herbarium specimens survived with little damage. Our Continuing Education program will continue unabated. CUH grounds and gardens are open to the public. All research and academic programs will continue, although wounded. We appreciate the tremendous help we have received from the University of Washington under Executive Vice President Weldon Ihrig, as well as the Seattle Fire and Police Departments. Hundreds of volunteers have worked tirelessly to lend moral support, carry materials and equipment to safety, and clean damaged library books, manuscripts, and precious research items. University of Washington Provost Lee Huntsman has assured us that the process of rebuilding will begin immediately in order to ensure that the important work of faculty, staff, and students will continue. We have received many offers of help and support, and in the weeks to come will know far more about what is needed. Donations are welcome and may be sent to the "Urban Hort Recovery Fund", c/o the CFR Development Office, UW, Box 352100, Seattle, WA 98195-2100. Make checks payable to the University Foundation. Though it is difficult for us to respond individually at this time, we want you to know how thankful we are for your calls and e-mails. To keep current about our progress toward recovering from this terrible event, please check our web site at www.urbanhort.org. From the faculty, staff and students at CUH, thank you!

2001: A Tree Odyssey

The 22nd Annual PNW-ISA Training Conference is coming soon! Mark your calendar now for the annual conference...a great program, good food, old friends...an event you won't want to miss. The conference is September 23-26, at the Harrison Hot Springs Resort in British Columbia. Featured speakers include Dr. Claus Mattheck; Dr. Kim Coder of the University of Georgia; Brian Minter, BC TV gardening personality; and Dr. Ed Gilman of the University of Florida. Look for more information in the next issue of "Pacific Northwest Trees." For more information, contact the PNW-ISA at (503) 874-8263 or by email at info@pnwisa.org.

2001 National Urban Forest Conference

American Forests is organizing the 2001 National Urban Forest Conference. The conference will be held in Washington, DC, September 5-8. The theme is "Investing in Natural Capital". The program session will focus on: public policies designed to increase natural capital, the latest computer technology to measure tree canopy cover and calculate its benefits, and the action programs that engage communities in rebuilding the urban forest. Speakers from around the world will be on hand to discuss urban forestry issues during the conference. Kevin LeClair, program coordinator of the Washington Urban and Community Forestry Program, will be presenting the findings of the Regional Ecosystem Analysis currently being conducted from Vancouver, Washington, to Eugene, Oregon. For more information, please contact American Forests at (304) 345-7578 or on the Internet at www.americanforests.org.

2001 Tree City USA Forum

The 2001 Tree City USA Forum is coming soon. The City of Olympia and the Olympia Tree Commission are hosting the forum on Wednesday, September 12, 2001. All Tree City USA's are invited to participate as this is a great opportunity to meet other Tree City USA participants and learn about programs around the Washington. Additional information will be sent in July. For those of you that are not Tree Cities yet...the four criteria include: establish a tree board or commission, write and pass a tree ordinance, document a \$2 per capita expenditure on tree-related matters, and celebrate Arbor Day. For more information on the Tree City USA Forum or the Tree City USA Program, call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-TREE.

In the works (continued)

"There is no aristocracy in trees. They are not haughty. They will thrive near the humblest cabin just as well as they will in the shadow of a king's palace. There is a true triumph in the unswerving integrity and genuine democracy of trees."

- J. Sterling Morton

TRIVIA: What percentage of canopy coverage does a community need for a 14% reduction in stormwater runoff?

(answer is upside down below)

Picks and Shovels

Water Conservation Tip: Collect water in the shower or bath while the water is warming up in buckets. This can then be used to water plants and saves on wasted water.

On the Horizon

The Washington Urban and Community Forestry Program is made possible with assistance from the USDA Forest Service. The program's purpose is to educate citizens and decision-makers about the economic, environmental, psychological and aesthetic benefits of trees and to assist local governments, citizen groups and volunteers in planting and sustaining healthy trees and vegetation wherever people live and work in Washington State.

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(At least 30%)

Green Industry Trade Show

The Washington Nursery and Landscape Association is presenting Emerald Expo 2001, a Green Industry Trade Show and Seminar Series. The event will be July 26-27, at the Stadium Exhibition Center in Seattle. The trade show will feature over 500 exhibits showcasing green goods, hard goods, and gift goods. The education seminars are geared towards growers, retailers, and landscape professionals. All attendees who pre-register by July 16, 2001 are admitted FREE. Registration at the door is \$6.00. A separate form is required for each attendee. Seminars are \$10.00 per 50 minute session, and \$15.00 per 80 minute session. Registrations may be accepted on-site on a space available basis. To ensure your space, you must register in advance. You will receive your badge and your seminar admission ticket at the show entrance. Prominent speakers will join us from throughout the U.S. and Canada. The Emerald Expo is sponsored by Northwest Garden News, Branch-Smith Publishing, and the Washington Association of Landscape Professionals. Don't miss this opportunity to educate and enthuse your entire staff. For more information on times of the show, seminar presenters, costs, and registration details, please call 1-877-GREEN55, or visit their website at www.emeraldexpo.com.

ISA Conference and Trade Show

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) is having its annual Conference and Trade Show in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 13-15, 2001. The theme is "A Festival of Trees" and will feature speakers from around the world. For details on the conference including a schedule of events, featured speakers, registration information and materials, visit www.isa-arbor.com. The ISA Conference and Trade Show will be in Seattle next summer, July 28-31, 2002. If you are interested in helping out with next years conference, contact the Pacific Northwest Chapter office or visit their website at www.pnwisa.org.

Planting and After Care of Community Trees. This publication was created by Penn State University and has helpful tips in the planting and care of trees in urban areas. This booklet has a lot of information and is in an easy to read format that includes a lot of graphics. If you would like a copy of this booklet, please contact Penn State University Publications Distribution Center at (814) 865-6713. A limited number are also available by calling the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-TREE.

Fire-Resistant Plants for Oregon Home Landscapes. The Oregon State University Extension Service has published this four page guide on making home landscapes fire safe. It was written by Steven Fitzgerald and Amy Joe Waldo, and is available via email. The guide includes an extensive species list to help homeowners plant landscapes that will resist fire. To receive a copy of this publication, please call the Urban and Community Forestry Program at 1-800-523-TREE or send an email request to urban_forestry@wadnr.gov.

July

21 PNW-ISA Tree Climbing Competition, Seattle. Call (509) 874-8263 for details.

26-27 Emerald Expo, at the Stadium Exposition Center, Seattle. Call 1-877-GREEN55 for details.

August

8 WCFC meeting in Wenatchee. Call the TreeLink Hotline for details.

12-15 International Society of Arboriculture Conference and Trade Show, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Registration materials available by calling the TreeLink Hotline.

September

5-8 2001 National Urban Forest Conference, Washington, DC. Contact American Forests at (304) 345-7578 or visit their website at www.americanforests.org for more informatin.

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